

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AF-10 ARA-10
CIAE-00 EA-10 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NASA-01
NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01 OES-07
SS-15 USIA-06 /135 W
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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2834
DIA WASHDC
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USMISSION NATO
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 14350

GENEVA FOR USSALTTWO

ATTN DIA SEE PARA 4 FOR IR FORMAT DATA

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM PMIL SALT US UR
SUBJECT: TASS ON INTERNAL US OPPOSITION TO CRUISE MISSILES

1. A TASS NEW YORK REPORT CARRIED IN PRAVDA AND KZ ON
30 SEP POINTS OUT INTERNAL US OPPOSITION TO THE PRODUCTION
OF CRUISE MISSILES BY CITING FORMER ACDA OFFICIAL
DAVID LINEBAUGH'S OP-ED COMMENTARY IN THE 28 SEP NY TIMES.
THIS TASS PIECE REVEALS TO THE SOVIET READER FOR THE FIRST
TIME A REPORTED US PROPOSAL IN THE SALT II NEGOTIATIONS FOR
LIMITING AIR-LAUNCHED CRUISE MISSILES (ALCM) VIA A SEPARATE
CEILING WHICH WOULD PERMIT THE US TO DEPLOY UP TO 250 B-52
CARRYING THESE WEAPONS. TASS CORRECTLY QUOTES
LINEBAUGH'S CRITICISM THAT THIS PROPOSAL IS "ONE-SIDED"
BECAUSE 250 B-52 COULD CARRY AS MANY AS 5000 ALCM, THUS
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PRODUCING AN INTENSIFICATION RATHER THAN A REDUCTION OF
ARMAMENTS.

2. THE TASS ARTICLE ALSO NOTES LINEBAUGH'S SUGGESTION
THAT THE US DECLARE A MORATORIUM ON THE TESTING AND
DEVELOPMENT OF LONG RANGE CRUISE MISSILES THUS IMPROVING
THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE SALT NEGOTIATIONS AND LESSENING

THE RISK OF NUCLEAR WAR.

3. COMMENT: THE TASS REPORT FAILS, HOWEVER, TO MENTION THAT LINEBAUGH'S PROPOSAL IN THE NY TIMES DIRECTLY LINKED US RESTRAINT IN CRUISE MISSILE DEVELOPMENT TO A SIMULTANEOUS HALT IN SOVIET DEPLOYMENT OF THEIR HEAVY ICBM, THE SS-18. THUS BY SELECTIVE QUOTATION THE SOVIETS SUCCEED IN VOICING DISPLEASURE WITH THE AMERICAN SEPARATE CEILING APPROACH TO ALCM LIMITATION WITHOUT PUBLICLY ACKNOWLEDGING THE US ARGUMENTS FOR IMPOSING FURTHER CONSTRAINTS ON SOVIET MLBM'S AS A MEANS TO ENHANCE THE SURVIVABILITY OF FIXED, LAND-BASED US ICBM.

4. THIS IS IR NO: 6 901 0957 77; 1. USSR (UR), 2. 6 901 0957 77; 3. TASS ON US INTERNAL OPPOSITION TO CRUISE MISSILES (U); 4. OMITTED; 5. 770930; 6. 770930; 7. 770930, MOSCOW, USSR; 8. CIR: 1A(1)(D)9000 CONTS; 9. C-3; 10. USDAO MOSCOW USSR (AIRA); 11. NO; 12. EDWARD L. WARNER MAJ, USAF, AAIRA; 13. RICHARD X. LARKIN, BG, USA, DATT; 14. PROVADA, RED STAR, KZ, 15. DIRC-NO; GDS 83 MATLOCK

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 30-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Remarks:
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